

DECLASSIFIED

THURSDAY
MARCH 18, 1954

I went to see Kit Steel this morning. He is irritated over no action having been initiated by the French to bring the British military agreements before the Steering Committee of EDC/IC. The French have now presumably obtained what they wanted from both the U.S. and U.K. but it has not spurred them on to take the action necessary in other particulars if they desire an early debate in Parliament on the EDC.

Joe Kingsbury Smith came to the office and showed me a copy of our time schedule which he had obtained from a French Government Department. I sent the following telegram on this same subject:

"Sent: SECSTATE WASHINGTON. COLED 194.

"The last paragraph COLED 192, Tomlinson's request that Alphonse cease his participation in press stories regarding time schedule, I gave on a personal basis summary of hypothetical time schedule set forth COLED 158 to Alphonse, Maurice Schumann, Reynaud and Pinay to facilitate conversations with them on this subject. I stated clearly that these statements represented working document this mission to show how US assurances would fit into program of measures of interested nations to make possible a debate and vote on EDC before Easter holidays. It is now quite evident that this document was then translated into French, reproduced, widely diffused and circulated, amongst others, to EDC opponents. A minor campaign has been made to build up a case of American pressure being exerted on French Government and Parliament including use of this document and repeated inaccurate leaks of conversations between Ambassador Dillon and Bidault.

"Latest is article from yesterday's Le Monde, reading as follows:

"QUOTE ... As to the American calendar brought up by M. Herriot at the

Radical congress, it seems in fact to be an international document of the American administration. The French Government appeared

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WH	
REVIEWED BY <u>CAC</u>	DATE <u>7-1-81</u>
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE	
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐	
RELEAS ☐ DENIED ☐	
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS	

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

THURSDAY
MARCH 18, 1954

-2-

origin of this schedule but it has not been discussed with or brought to the attention of the Government. It would be more surprising if it had, since the calendar has in no way been adhered to so far. One fact is certain: France has been invited to take a decision PAREN on the EDC END PAREN before the US Congress votes on the US budget. UNQUOTE.

"Think best ignore this matter and continue to conduct our affairs in normal fashion. However, would like make following observations:

"Understand Reynaud used the information in it in connection with his protest to Laniel over latter's failure to take decision on debate and to point out complicated procedural matters that would need to be dealt with even after such decision reached. Pinay told me he wanted information it contained regarding tentative timing US assurances in connection his attempts to convince EDC proponents of necessity early action. Until Schumann and Alphand had seen it, they appeared unaware of complexity of procedural problems that must be faced in connection with EDC debate. Alphand, when challenged, agreed that our action was entirely appropriate and that desired effect of forcing consideration of these questions was temporarily achieved even though continued inaction has led to a new lull in Cabinet's consideration of these matters.

"As long ago as last October 15 COLED 65 I referred to necessity of active committee work which even today has not been completed. I do not wish to be nostalgic but I recommend a rereading of that telegram.

"It is quite evident that the text of this undated memorandum on plain paper was deliberately leaked by French Government officials and was transmitted to Herriot as well as to newspaper correspondents, one of whom showed me a copy this morning in French, which he alleged could be rather easily had through Laniel's private cabinet or the Quai d'Orsay. Three other correspondents have reported to

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

THURSDAY
MARCH 18, 1954

-3-

us that Quai d'Orsay officials, including Quai d'Orsay press services, are now following active campaign to give general impression of US pressure. I surmise that purpose is to discourage us in making representations and to prevent disclosure that blame for postponement of debate lies with French Government and not with Socialists, US, UK, FedRep, or other governments as its propaganda claims. BRUCE."

We are having some fun with Alphand in this connection, for Tommy has told him since so much publicity has been given to this matter that I am considering whether, in order to protect French officialdom, I should not point out the working paper was given only to himself and three other Frenchmen.

Phil Sprouse and Wiley Buchanan arrived here today for briefing on the present situation in France vis-à-vis EDC and delivery of the original text of the President's declaration. Doc Matthews will come this afternoon for the same purpose.

Frank Bergholzer of NEC, who has been here a year, came in to talk to me about ratification prospects.

Ray Dickey telephoned me from Washington asking whether I would write a letter in support of his candidacy to become Ambassador to Israel. I told him I thought he could obtain sponsors who would be more useful to him politically than myself but I would be glad to have my name used as a reference. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

I talked a couple of times to Jim Conant on the telephone today regarding the French attempt to have the Allied High Commission take an undesirable stand against the final procedures essential to ratification by Germany of EDC.

Tonight E., Nancy Lancaster, who is staying with us, and I went to dinner with the Ismays and had a ~~very~~ pleasant time.

DECLASSIFIED